

CLEAN VERSION OF PAGE 10 OF SPECIFICATION

The manufacture of fuel source 20 of Figure 1A has been performed in the following manner. The porous carrier is formed from paper which is soaked in water and coarsely macerated to obtain paper pulp which is then pressed into a generally conical shape and dried. The dried, formed porous carrier is then immersed into liquid paraffin wax or beeswax. The carrier absorbs the liquefied wax until it is saturated and then the porous carrier is removed from the liquefied wax and set aside to allow the wax to solidify on the porous carrier to obtain body 24.

When solidified, a small bore can be formed in top of body 24 and wick 28 inserted into the bore and bonded in place with a drop of liquid wax. It should be noted that, as mentioned above, wick 28 is optional and when provided is only employed to initiate combustion of fuel source 20. Thus, wick 28 need not penetrate body 24 to any great extent and a penetration of a half inch or less has been found to be satisfactory. When wick 28 has been placed, another small bore can be formed into the top of body 24, adjacent wick 28, to receive safety match 29. As also mentioned above, safety match 29 is also optional and need not be included. It will also be apparent to those of skill in the art that the present invention is not limited to the use of safety matches and that these are merely preferred for safety reasons and that other ignition devices can be employed if desired.

Ignition of fuel source 20 is easily accomplished by igniting wick 28, if present, or otherwise heating a portion of body 24 and igniting the resulting vaporized solid fuel on the combustion surface 26. When first lit, combustion occurs only in the area adjacent the point of ignition. However, as the solid fuel adjacent the combustion area is heated, vaporized and combusted, combustion spreads to substantially the entire exposed combustion surface 26 of body 24, namely, all of the surface except the base which is effectively smothered by the support surface 27 on which it rests. The base of the body 24 when in contact with the support surface 27 does not achieve surface combustion but generally is effectively consumed by the coal, second stage combustion, if the porous carrier is combustible.